

Question**WHAT DOES EPA MEAN?****Answer**

Those three letters stand for "Environmental Protection Agency". The Environmental Protection Agency is an American organization that elaborates and coordinates the application of laws which goal is to protect the environment. EPA certified wood stoves meet emissions guidelines set by the Environmental Protection Agency. EPA certified wood stoves will generally release less particulates into the atmosphere and will provide a longer burn time.

Question**HOW DO EPA CERTIFIED STOVES WORK AS OPPOSED TO NON-EPA STOVES?****Answer**

In the case of EPA certified stoves, there are generally two air intakes on the stove: primary and secondary. The exhaust gases are mixed with secondary air, causing them to re-ignite and burn before going up the chimney. The result is a reduction in particulate emissions, as well as an increased burn time. Some EPA certified stoves also work with a catalytic converter. Instead of using secondary air, the smoke is channelled through a device that lowers the combustion temperatures of the gases. This allows gases to be consumed at lower firing. Catalytic converters need to be replaced after a certain number of operations and can be costly. Non-EPA wood stoves usually have only one air intake and have no catalytic converters.

Question**DO I NEED AN EPA CERTIFIED WOOD STOVE?****Answer**

You first need to identify what your needs are. If you need a stove for occasional heat (a cottage or a camp), ambiance, or just as a back-up heat source in case of power failure, you do not necessarily need to invest more money in order to buy an EPA certified wood stove. However, if your goal is to heat on a regular basis, the extra dollars will prove to be a good investment. You will help the environment and you will save on wood.

NOTE: If you live in the United States or in British Columbia, EPA certified wood stoves are mandatory. If you want a conventional stove, it needs to be "EPA Exempt".

Question

IS MY STOVE "CSA", "UL", OR "ULC" APPROVED?

Answer

All Drolet stoves are certified as per the latest CSA standards, except for model "Hunter", which must be used strictly for recreational purposes. Most of our stoves are tested by Warnock Hersey, an independent testing agency whose role is to certify that our units comply with the security standards set by the CSA (Canadian Standard Association). This is why the certification plate at the back of our stoves reads "Warnock Hersey". ULC (Underwriters Laboratories of Canada) is another independent testing agency.

All of our "EPA" and "EPA Exempt" stoves meet the American security standards, most of which are set by UL (Underwriters Laboratories). They are tested by Warnock Hersey.

Question

DO I NEED AN ASH DRAWER?

Answer

An ash drawer is a very practical feature, but it is not absolutely necessary. The ash drawer enables you to empty your stove and leave the ashes in the drawer until it is full. It makes cleaning more convenient and less messy. If you do not have an ash drawer, you can scoop out the ashes into a small bucket (with a cover) that you leave near the stove. **ALWAYS MAKE SURE THAT THE EMBERS ARE COLD BEFORE DISPOSING OF THEM.**

Question

DO I NEED A CHIMNEY THERMOMETER?

Answer

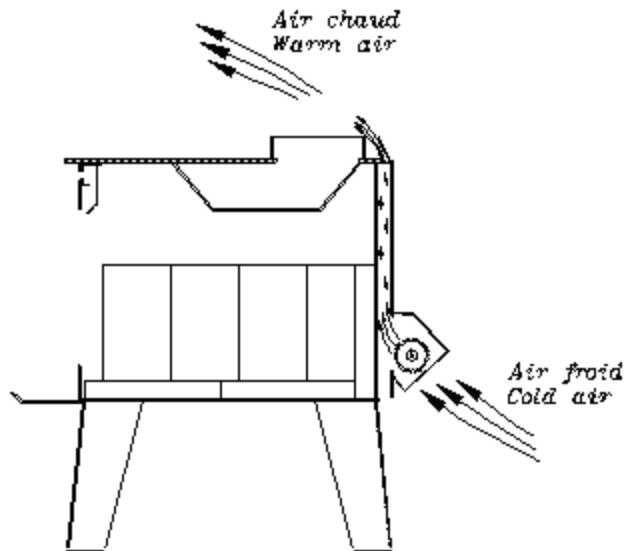
A chimney thermometer is highly recommended. It can prevent problems by providing you with an instant indication whether you are over-firing or under-firing your stove. The chimney thermometer will prove very useful especially if you have just bought your stove. You will know how to adjust the air intake control in order to operate your stove properly. Other members of your family will be able to rely on the thermometer in order to use the stove safely. NOTE: double wall stove pipes require a thermometer with a probe.

Question

WHY SHOULD I INSTALL A BLOWER?

Answer

A blower can be installed at the back of your DROLET stove. The blower is necessary if you wish to redistribute the heat trapped at the back of your stove. By forcing hot air toward the front, the blower enables you to extend the radiation power of your stove. Please note that most DROLET stoves also have the option of a thermodisc. A thermodisc will activate the blower as soon as the stove reaches a high temperature, and will turn it off when the stove cools off. If you do not have a blower or a thermodisc and would like to get one, please consult our "[accessories](#)" section.



Question

DO I NEED A FLOOR PROTECTION UNDER AND AROUND THE STOVE?

Answer

Yes. A floor protection is required for any wood stove, unless it already sits on a non-combustible surface. You have many choices, such as stone, brick or tile. You need to consult your owner's manual in order to know the dimensions of the floor protection specific to your model.

Question

IS IT POSSIBLE TO REDUCE THE MINIMUM CLEARANCES TO COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS?

Answer

Before you read this section, please take note that the information supplied in the table below is based on Canadian standards and may not apply to other countries.

The minimum clearances can be reduced by installing a protective shield. The shield can be made of various non-combustible materials, such as ceramic, brick or metal. After installing a heat shield, the minimum clearances indicated on the stove's certification plate can be reduced, as summarized in the table below:

TYPE OF PROTECTION	Percentage of clearance reduction using shielding	
	SIDES AND BACK	TOP
Sheet metal, with minimum thickness of 0,013" (0,33mm), spaced out by at least 1" (25.4mm) by non-combustible spacers.	67%	50%
Ceramic tiles, or an equivalent non-combustible material installed on a non-combustible support, spaced out by at least 1" (25.4mm) by non-combustible spacers.	50%	33%
Ceramic tiles, or an equivalent non-combustible material installed on non-combustible supports with a minimum of 0,013" (0,33mm) sheet metal backing spaced out by at least 1" (25.4mm) by non-combustible spacers.	67%	50%
Brick, spaced out by at least 1" (25.4mm) by non-combustible spacers.	50%	N / A
Brick, with a minimum of 0,013" (0,33 mm) sheet metal backing spaced out by at least 1" (25.4mm) by non-combustible spacers.	67%	N / A

Source: CSA Standard B365-1991, Table 4, Page 27.

Question

CAN I INSTALL A WOOD STOVE IN MY MOBILE HOME?

Answer

Yes, you can install a wood stove in a mobile home. However, the stove you install must have been specifically approved for mobile home applications. The stove must also be hooked up to a fresh air intake that enables combustion air to come from outside the house. Drolet models Adirondack, Eldorado, Jurassien EPA, Celtic, Savannah, Austral, Baltic, and Azimuth are approved for installation in a mobile home. You need to purchase a mobile home adapter, which can be found in the "[**accessories**](#)" section.

Question

WHAT TYPE OF EXHAUST SYSTEM DO I NEED?

Answer

Your exhaust system is comprised of two main elements: a chimney and a connector (commonly called "stove pipe"). There are two types of chimneys: a Class A metal chimney or a masonry chimney. Class A chimneys are rated to withstand temperatures up to 2100°F and are easy to install. The connector is made of steel and needs a minimum thickness of 24ga. You can also use a double wall connector that will enable you, in most cases, to reduce clearances to combustible material. The connector cannot go through ceilings, closets, floors, or any other combustible partition. It is the chimney that goes through combustible partitions and that goes out to the exterior of the house, according to the chimney manufacturer's specifications.

Question

CAN I INSTALL MY STOVE USING AN EXISTING MASONRY CHIMNEY?

Answer

It is possible to install a stove using your existing masonry chimney. The chimney must comply with the building code of your country, state or province. It usually needs to be lined with refractory bricks, metal, or clay tiles sealed together with fire cement. The diameter of the chimney must be the same as the stove's flue outlet. If your masonry chimney does not have the

same diameter as the stove's flue outlet, you need to insert a stainless steel liner having the proper diameter. Otherwise, you may face draft problems.

Question

HOW CAN I DETERMINE WHAT SIZE OF STOVE I NEED?

Answer

Before answering this question, it is very important that you clearly identify what your needs are. Some people will buy a stove simply to enhance the ambiance of a room, while others will buy a stove as their main source of heat. There is no good or bad reason for buying a wood stove. If you simply want to enhance the ambiance of a room, most small to medium stoves will suit your needs. Simply choose the style you like best, and put the stove in the room where you spend the most time. The heat and look of a glowing fire will create an atmosphere of warmth and well-being.

If your primary need is heat, you must verify the heating capacity of your stove based on the technical data provided by the manufacturer. For instance, if you want to heat a 800f^2 area, you need to buy a stove with a minimum capacity of 800f^2 .

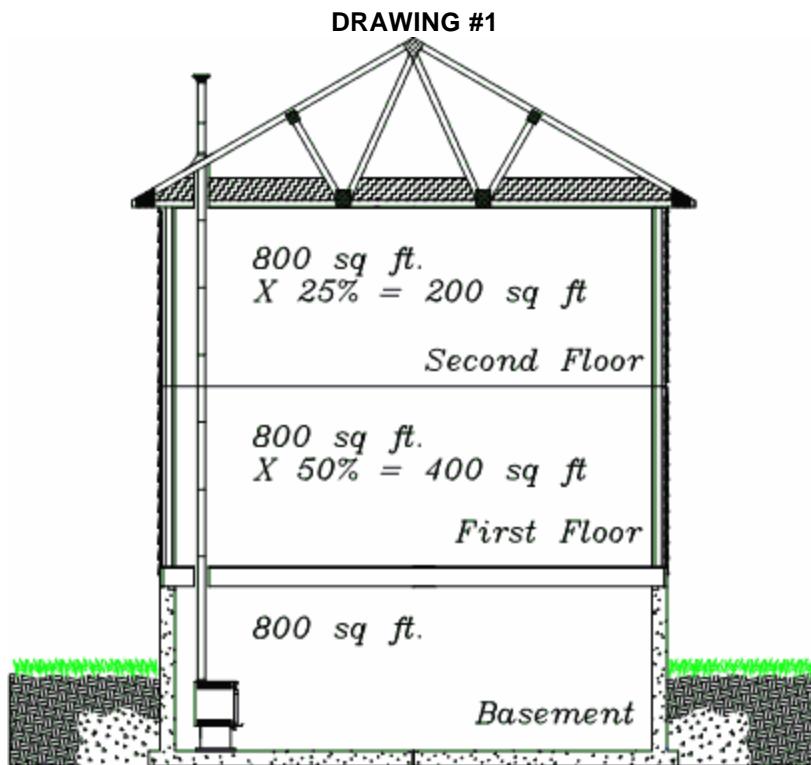
If you need to heat more than one floor, keep in mind that heat rises. Therefore, a stove located in your basement will help you heat the main floor as well. However, the contrary is not true; a stove located on the main floor (ground floor) will not heat the basement. Keep in mind also that the more divisions there are in the house, the harder it will be to distribute the heat evenly.

If you need to heat two floors, calculate the surface of the lower floor. Then, add 50% of the surface of the upper floor. For instance, if you install a stove in the basement and you have 800f^2 , you will need a stove with a minimum capacity of $1,200\text{f}^2$ ($800 + 400 = 1,200$).

If you need to heat more than two floors, calculate the surface of the lower floor (where the stove is located). Then, add 50% of the surface of the middle floor, and 25% of the surface of the upper floor. For instance, if you install a stove in the basement and you have 800f^2 , you will need a stove with a minimum capacity of $1,400\text{f}^2$ ($800+400+200= 1,400$). Consult drawing #1A. It will help you understand the explanations provided in this section.

WARNING: Wood stoves are designed for "zone" heating, not central heating. The room where the stove is located and the rooms directly above the stove will always reach higher temperatures than the rooms distant from the stove. If you want an even temperature throughout the house, you need to consider a central heating system, such as a Hotbalst 1400 wood furnace.

Furthermore, you must keep in mind that the size of the stove you need may vary based in the insulation of your house, its exposition to wind, and the number of windows. It will always be prudent to buy a stove with a capacity that is slightly higher than the minimum capacity that you need. For instance, if you need a minimum capacity of $1,400\text{f}^2$, it will be more prudent to buy a stove with a capacity of $1,500$ to $1,600\text{f}^2$.



Drawing #1 gives an example of the minimum heating capacity required for a stove to be installed in a house with three floors of 800² each. We take for assumption that the house is well insulated and that air can circulate between each floor through an open stairway and/or floor traps.

Question

WHAT DO THE WORDS “DRAFT” AND “NEGATIVE PRESSURE” MEAN?

Answer

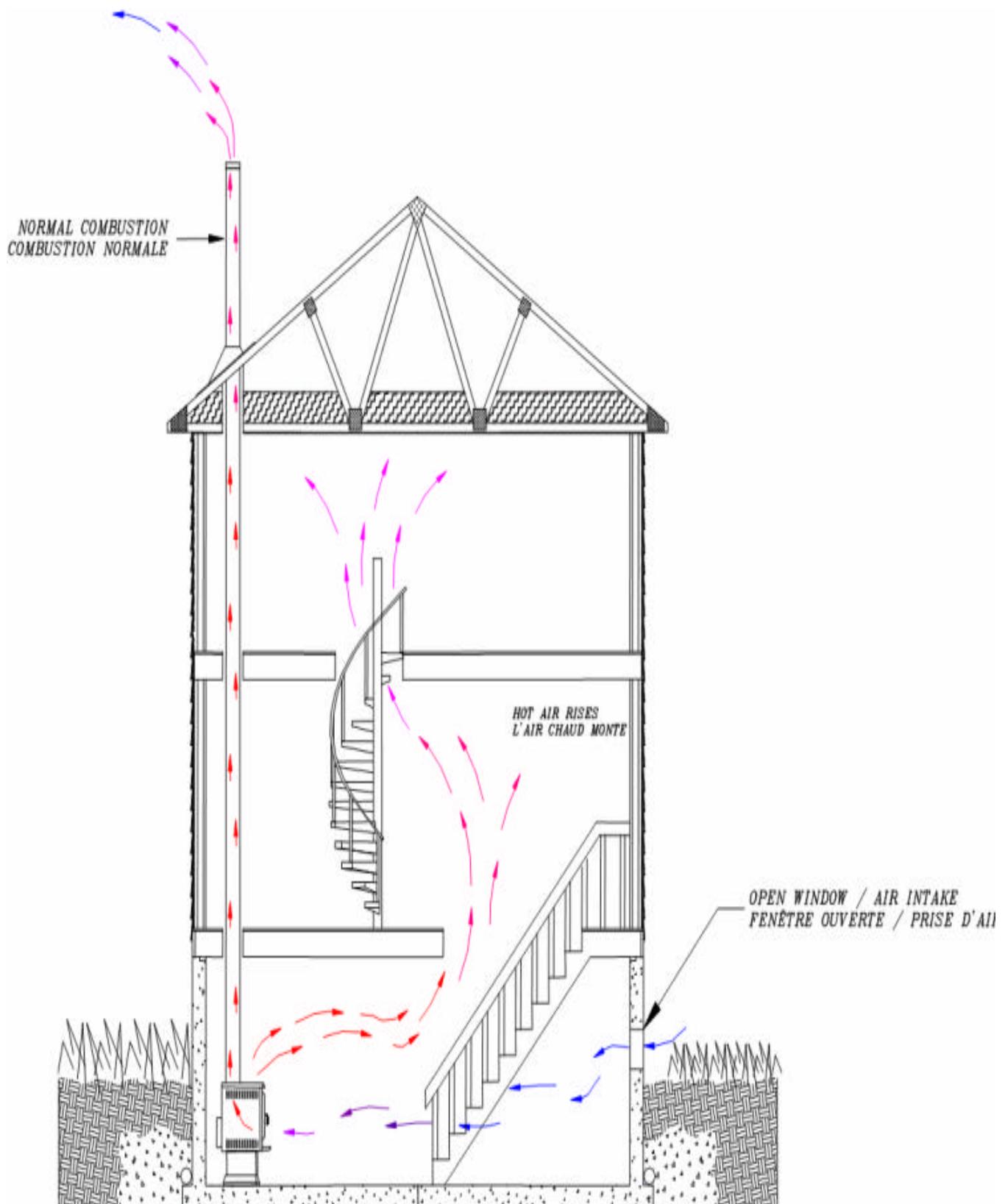
The word “draft” refers to the hot air movement that circulates in your stove’s exhaust system, moving from the stove to the outside of the house, and carrying with it the combustion residues. The draft is a natural phenomenon. Hot air weights less than cold air, causing it to rise. This is why the higher the temperature in the exhaust system, the stronger the draft. It is also important to say that the “tunnel effect” created by the exhaust system contributes to increasing the draft effect. This is why chimneys that are excessively long often create excessive draft, while chimneys that are abnormally short will have an excessively low draft. The following are often symptoms of a draft problem:

- Excessively dirty (blackened) glass;
- A fire that has a tendency to die quickly when the stove door is closed;
- A stove that does not heat enough.

"Negative pressure" can be seen as a "reverse draft". That is, air will circulate from the chimney toward the interior of the house. Negative pressure is often what causes smoking problems. In general, negative pressure is the result of either one or a combination of the three factors explained below:

1. A cold chimney. Cold air, which is heavier than hot air, has a tendency to go down the chimney and create the effect of a "clog". This explains why a stove that has not worked for a long time and which chimney is very cold will sometimes be hard to light and cause smoking problems.
2. Negative pressure can also be caused by a "vacuum effect" in the room or the house. The air in a house is constantly moving. Hot air rises, cold air moves down. Air can also be mechanically expulsed outside of the house with the use of air-moving devices, such as a range hood, a air exchanger, a dryer, a bathroom fan, etc. Furthermore, air goes in and out of the house through cracks, doors, windows, etc. If air leaves a room without being replaced, a "vacuum effect" is created. Therefore, if a house is well insulated and all windows are closed, the room will source its air through the easiest alternative route, which is often your stove's exhaust system. This creates a negative pressure in your exhaust system. You now understand why it is often suggested that a window be slightly open in the room where the stove is located. This enables the room to easily source its air from outside the house without searching for an alternative route. The vacuum effect can amplified when your stove is located in the basement. This is due to the fact that your house itself acts like a chimney. Since hot air will rise to upper floors, it will "draw" air from the basement of the house. This phenomenon is called the "chimney stack effect".
3. Wind can also be a third cause of negative pressure. When your house is located near a structure which height is superior to your roof's, wind currents can create an interference with your chimney, leading to negative pressure problems. Drawing #1B to #6B will help you understand the explanations provided in the above section.

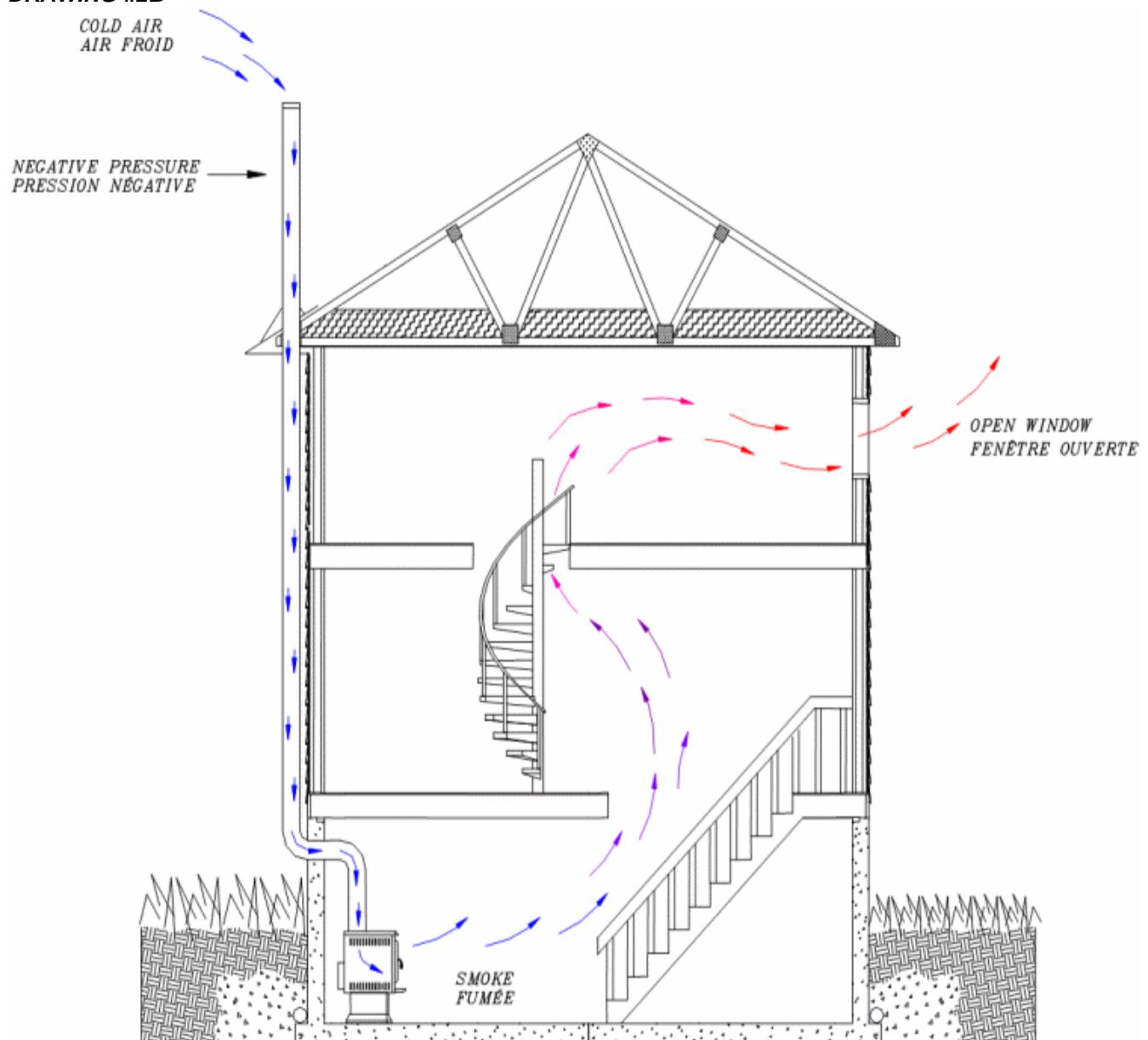
DRAWING #1B



DRAWING #1B shows a stove functioning under normal and adequate conditions. Heat rises to

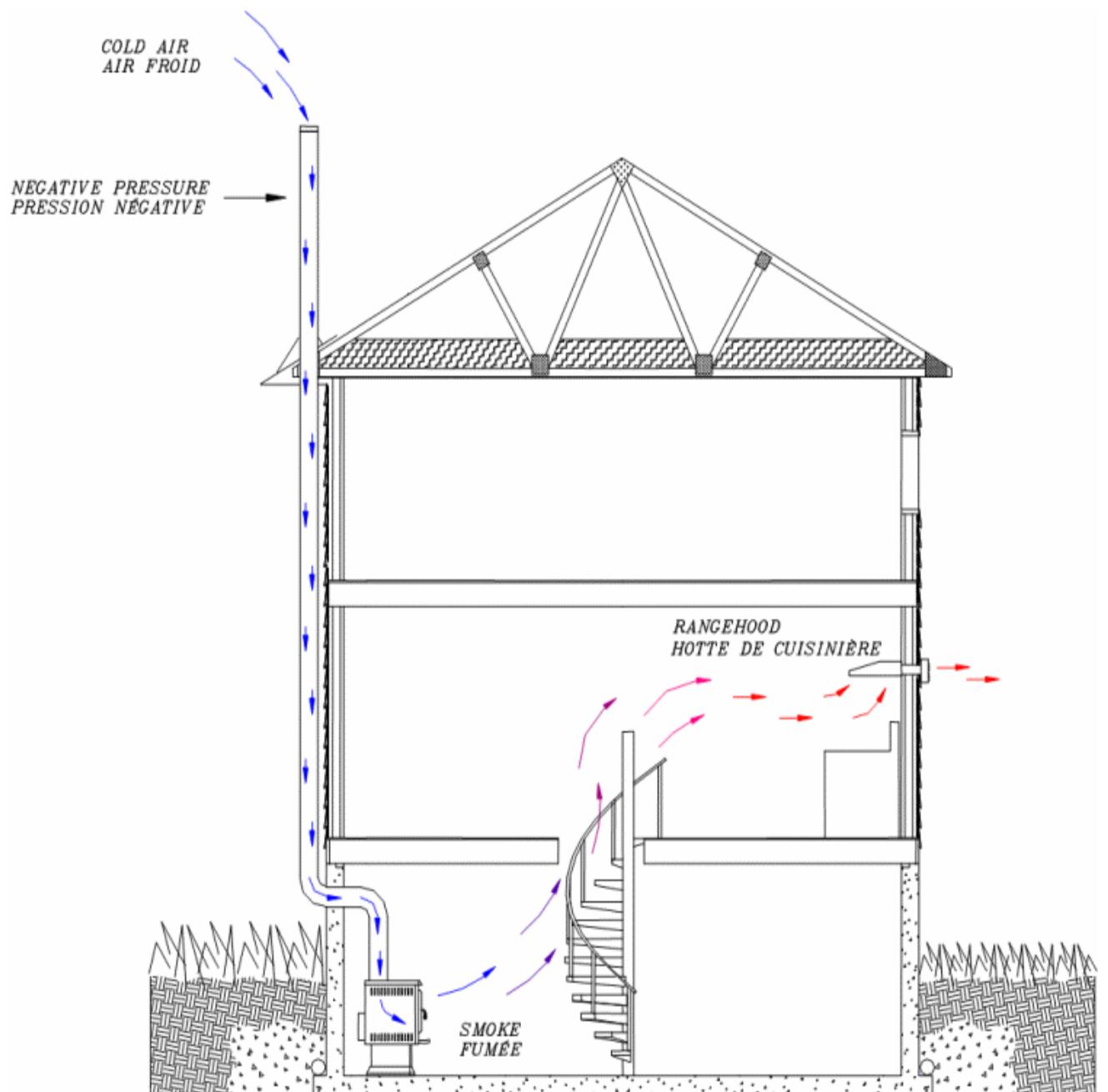
the upper floors and the room where the stove is located has an adequate supply of oxygen. The chimney draft is sufficient and the combustion gases are evacuated normally through the exhaust system.

DRAWING #2B



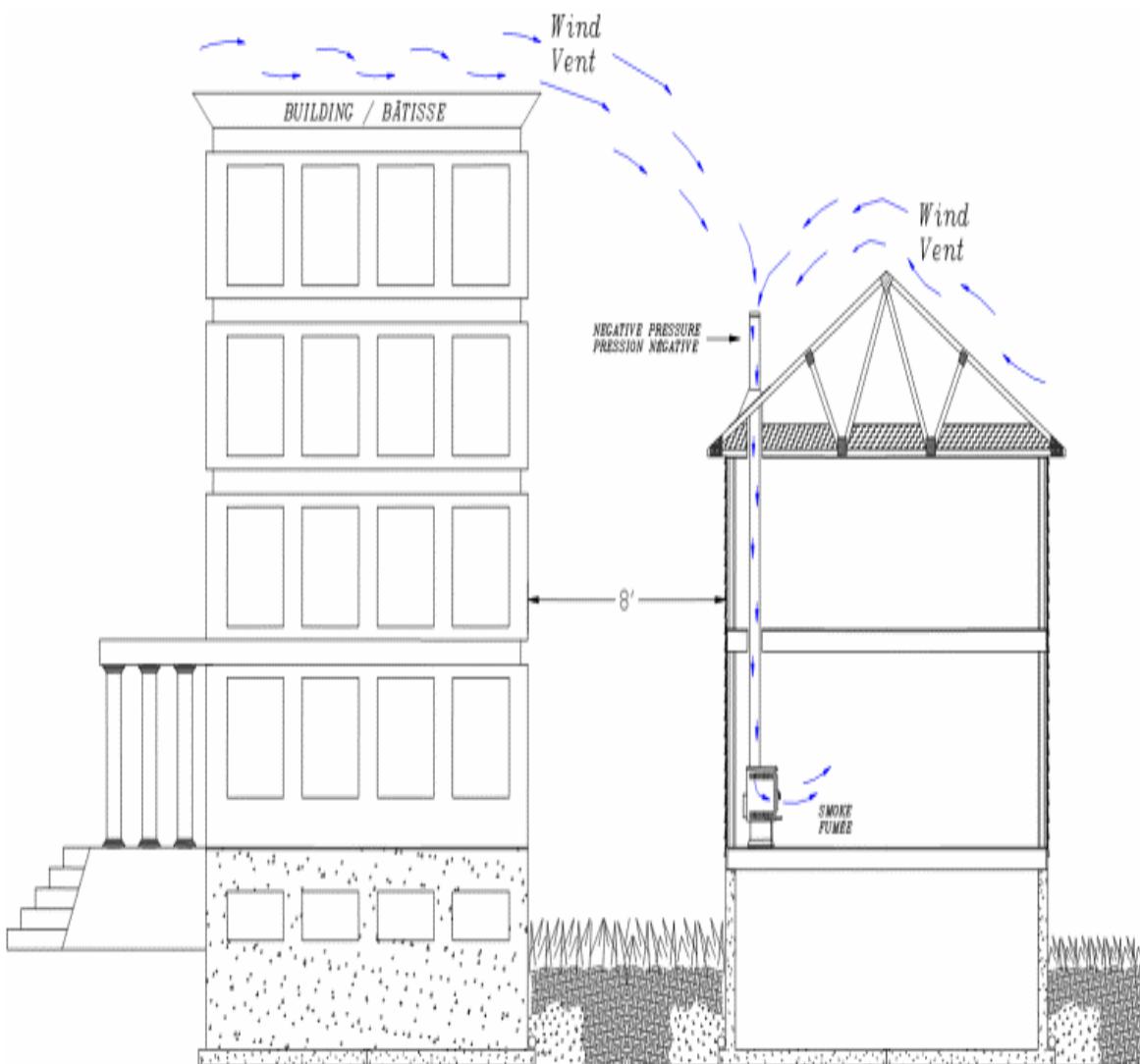
DRAWING #2B shows the effect of a cold chimney. Cold air creates a reverse draft (negative pressure), which causes smoking problems. This phenomenon is amplified by the fact that heat rises, which creates a draft from the basement of the house to the upper floors ("chimney stack effect").

DRAWING #3B



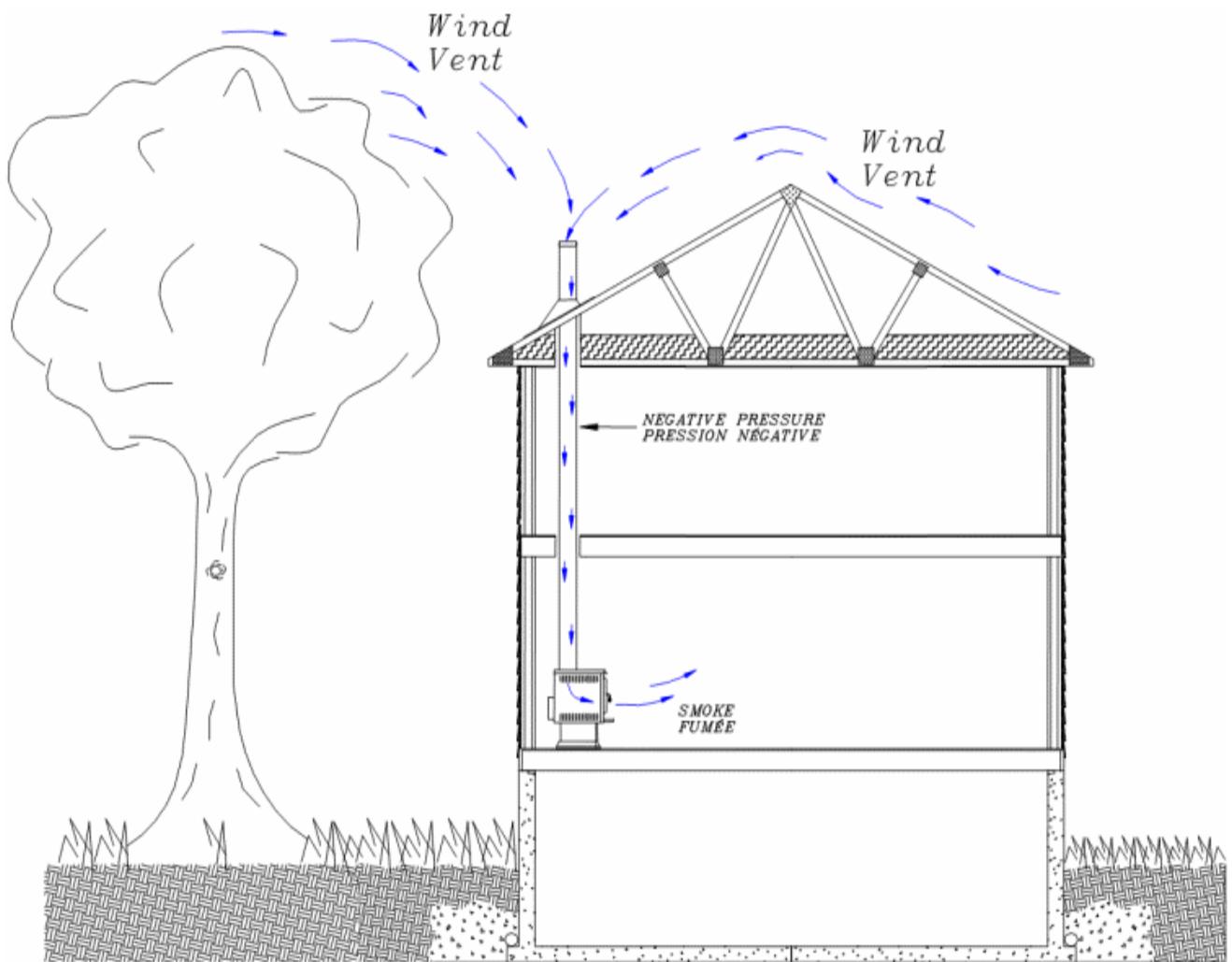
DRAWING #3B shows the effect of negative pressure caused by an air-moving device inside the house. In the example above, the range hood draws air from inside the house, which is replaced by air coming from the chimney. The result is a smoking problem.

DRAWING #4B



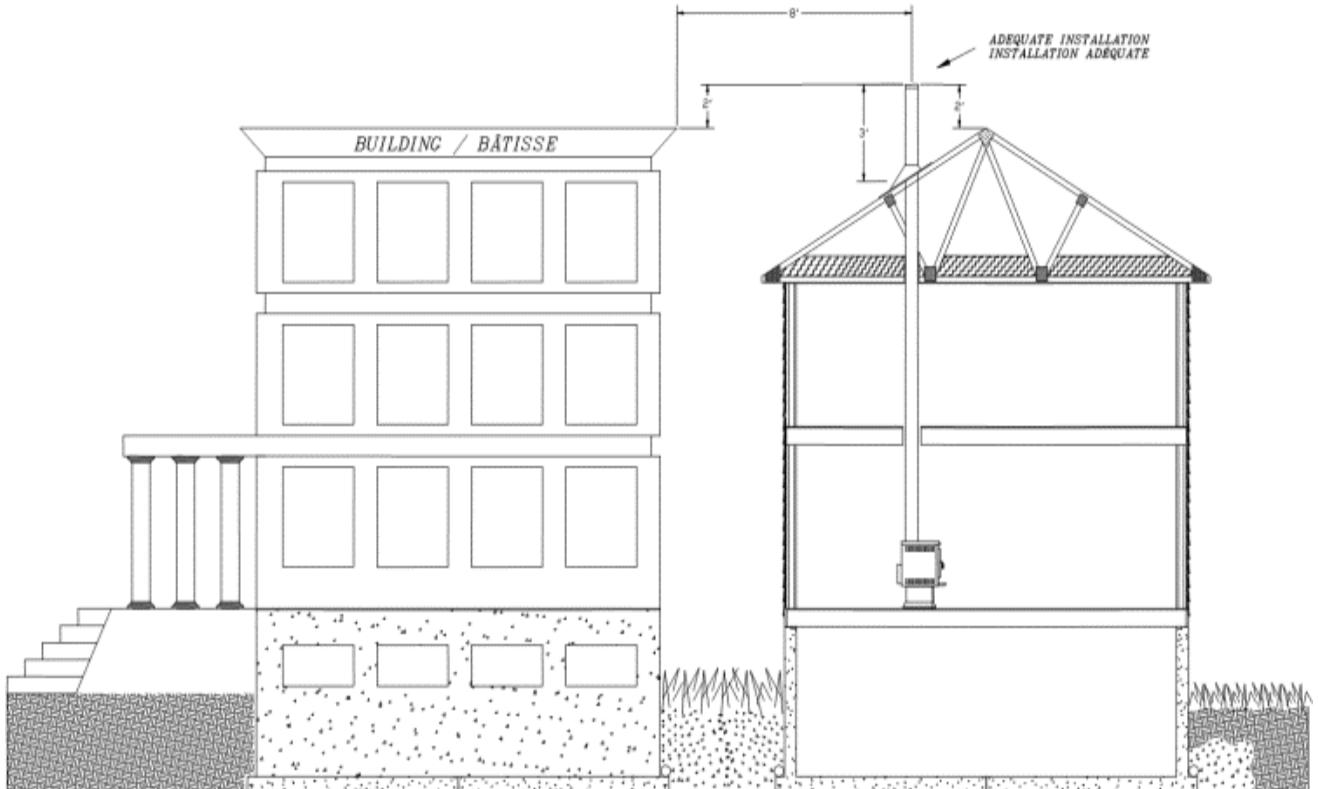
DRAWING #4B shows the negative pressure effect caused by wind, influenced by nearby structures such as a building.

DRAWING #5B



DRAWING #5B shows the negative pressure effect that can be caused by wind, influenced by nearby structures such as a tree.

DRAWING #6B



DRAWING #6B shows the minimum height that the chimney should have, considering adjacent structures located within a horizontal distance of 10 feet.

Question

WHY IS THERE SMOKE WHEN I USE MY STOVE?

Answer

Possible causes and solutions

1. Your stove is new and thin smoke is coming out of the surface of the unit.

Solution : This is normal when your stove is new and has never been used. The paint needs to be "cured". You need to heat your stove two or three of times before the curing process is completed. Simply open a window in the room where the stove is located. The amount of smoke produced by the curing process should be very limited.

2. The chimney is under negative pressure, which causes a smoking problem.
(Consult the drawings under the question "What do the words draft and negative pressure mean?").

Solution#1 : The chimney may simply be too cold. Light-up a small quantity of newspaper in the stove, as close as possible to the flue outlet. Leave the door slightly ajar. This small fire will slowly heat-up the chimney, until it is hot enough to create a normal draft inside the exhaust system. If needed, slowly increase the quantity of newspaper. When you realize that smoke is being evacuated normally through the exhaust system, you can build a normal fire. If you have a Class A insulated chimney that climbs along the outside wall of your house, it is possible to cover it up in order to protect it from the wind and the cold. A covered chimney will heat-up faster.

Solution #2 : Negative pressure may be caused by air-moving devices, such as a range hood, a bathroom fan, or an air exchanger. Check if smoking problems occur when those devices are working. If it is the case, make sure you turn them off when you use your stove. Otherwise, you need to make sure that the air leaving the room is replaced by air from outside the house. For instance, you can open a window slightly (by one or two inches). Ideally, the source of fresh air should be located as close as possible to the stove.

Solution #3 : Negative pressure may be caused by wind, due to the interference from a nearby structure. In order to eliminate such interference, the extremity of your chimney should be at least two feet higher than any structure (such as a big tree or a building) located within ten feet of your chimney. Furthermore, you must make sure that the extremity of your chimney is at least two feet higher than the highest point on your roof. Otherwise, the roof of your house itself may cause an interference with your chimney.

Question

WHY DOES THE GLASS GET SO DIRTY?

Answer

Possible causes and solutions :

1. The wood that you are using is too humid.

Solution : Make sure you use good, seasoned wood. The wood you burn plays an important role in the overall performance of your stove. Your wood should have been properly dried for approximately one year. Storage is also key. Wood that has been cut for one, two or even more years, will not necessarily be dry if it has been stored in poor conditions. Under extreme conditions, it may have rotten instead of drying. Smaller pieces of wood will dry faster. The wood should be stored in a place where the grass is not too long, and where the wind will be able to circulate between the logs. A 24" to 48" gap should be kept between the cords. The wood should be placed in the sunniest area and should be protected from the rain and the snow on top, but not the sides.

2. The logs are positioned too close to the glass and are obstructing the air flow that is necessary to keep the glass clean.

Solution : Make sure to keep a minimum gap of 4" between the logs and the glass.

3. The chimney draft is too weak.

Solution #1 : In many cases, a weak draft is simply due to insufficient heat in the exhaust system. Build a small, intense fire, and leave the door ajar (never leave the stove unattended). Before inserting larger logs, use dry kindling to obtain a good bed of red embers. Gradually increase the size of the logs. Close the stove door when you reach a flue temperature of approximately 475°F on the chimney thermometer. Leave the air intake fully open for approximately 15 minutes. Then, gradually close the air intake control. Note that there is no danger in letting the temperature inside the flue reach approximately 700°F during start-up. This is even favourable in order to properly start your stove. You must however avoid maintaining excessive temperatures (above the comfort zone on your thermometer) during a long period of time. Your chimney thermometer should be positioned on the exhaust pipe, approximately 18 inches above the stove. If you do not have a chimney thermometer and would like to get one, please consult our "[accessories](#)" section.

Solution #2 : Your stove may not have all the oxygen it needs to allow for a sufficient draft. You first need to insure that the room where the stove is located is sufficiently large and well ventilated. Open the nearest window by approximately 2 inches. If you notice a significant improvement, it is a sign that the stove needs more oxygen. The room may be too insulated or too small. Without an additional source of oxygen, the draft will remain weak and cause the glass stay dirty.

Solution #3 : The chimney may be too short. In order to obtain a sufficient draft, your chimney must have a minimum height. A minimum height of 12 feet (from the stove to the end of the chimney) will generally provide a sufficient draft. **PLEASE NOTE :** Longer is not always better. A chimney that is excessively long may be difficult to warm-up and control.

Solution #4 : Your exhaust system may be too tortuous or may lack a sufficiently steep slope. Ideally, your exhaust system should not have more than one 90° elbow. Furthermore, all horizontal sections should be as short as possible and have a minimum slope of $\frac{1}{4}$ " per foot.

Solution #5 : Your exhaust system may be oversized. When your chimney is oversized, the volume of air that needs to be warmed-up is larger. It is therefore difficult to reach temperatures that will allow for a sufficient draft. Most EPA certified stoves have a 6" flue outlet (152mm). If your exhaust system does not have a 6" diameter, you can insert a stainless liner with a 6" diameter inside the exhaust system. Non-EPA stoves often have a flue outlet that varies from 6" to 8". Insert a liner with a diameter equal to the stove's flue outlet.

Question

WHAT PRODUCT SHOULD I USE TO CLEAN THE GLASS?

Answer

There exists many specialized products on the market. The majority works very well. They are usually sold at both specialty stores and home improvement centers. The retailer where you have bought your stove will usually be able to suggest a brand. Note that there is no miracle product. If your glass has not been cleaned periodically, creosote build ups and combustion residues will be very hard to remove. Your glass will probably not retrieve its original appearance. Replacing the glass is always an option, but it will be more costly. No matter what product you use, make sure you always clean the glass very well with a cloth. Otherwise, a white deposit may appear on the glass when you light up the stove..

Question

WHY DOES THE FIRE GO OUT WHEN I CLOSE THE STOVE DOOR?

Answer

Possible causes and solutions :

1. The wood that your are using is too humid.

Solution : Make sure you use good, seasoned wood. The wood you burn plays an important role in the overall performance of your stove. Your wood should have been properly dried for approximately one year. Storage is also key. Wood that has been cut for one, two or even more years, will not necessarily be dry if it has been stored in poor conditions. Under extreme conditions, it may have rotten instead of drying. Smaller pieces of wood will dry faster. The wood should be stored in a place where the grass is not too long, and where the wind will be able to circulate between the logs. A 24" to 48" gap should be kept between the cords. The wood should be placed in the sunniest area and should be protected from the rain and the snow on top, but not the sides.

2. The air control mechanism is not open enough.

Solution : Adjust the air control mechanism in order to keep the flue temperature within the comfort zone (between 250 and 475°F) on your chimney thermometer. The air control mechanism must always be closed gradually. You need to obtain a good bed of red embers and the logs must be completely lit up before you close the air control completely. This can easily take up to one hour. If you do not have a chimney thermometer and would like to get one, please consult our "[accessories](#)" section.

3. The logs that you are using are too big.

Solution : Use smaller pieces of wood and place them to allow proper air circulation between the logs. The same weight of wood cut in many small pieces will produce more heat than fewer, larger logs. Only add big logs when you have a good bed of red embers. Logs with a diameter exceeding 6 inches should always be split. Avoid stacking logs to the top of the stove.

4. The chimney draft is too weak.

Solution #1 : In many cases, a weak draft is simply due to insufficient heat in the exhaust system. Build a small, intense fire, and leave the door ajar (never leave the stove unattended). Before inserting larger logs, use dry kindling to obtain a good bed of red embers. Gradually increase the size of the logs. Close the stove door when you reach a flue temperature of approximately 475°F on the chimney thermometer. Leave the air intake fully open for approximately 15 minutes. Then, gradually close the air intake control. Note that there is no danger in letting the temperature inside the flue reach approximately 700°F during start-up. This is even favourable in order to properly start your stove. You must however avoid to maintain excessive temperatures (above the comfort zone on your thermometer) during a long period of time. Your chimney thermometer should be positioned on the exhaust pipe, approximately 18 inches above the stove. If you do not have a chimney thermometer and would like to get one, please consult our "[**accessories**](#)" section.

Solution #2 : Your stove may not have all the oxygen it needs to allow for a sufficient draft. You first need to insure that the room where the stove is located is sufficiently large and well ventilated. Open the nearest window by approximately 2 inches. If you notice a significant improvement, it is a sign that the stove needs more oxygen. The room may be too insulated or too small. Without an additional source of oxygen, the draft will remain weak and cause the fire to go out.

Solution #3 : The chimney may be too short. In order to obtain a sufficient draft, your chimney must have a minimum height. A minimum height of 12 feet (from the stove to the end of the chimney) will generally provide a sufficient draft. PLEASE NOTE: Longer is not always better. A chimney that is excessively long may be difficult to warm-up and control.

Solution #4 : Your exhaust system may be too tortuous or may lack a sufficiently steep slope. Ideally, your exhaust system should not have more than one 90° elbow. Furthermore, all horizontal sections should be as short as possible and have a minimum slope of $\frac{1}{4}$ " per foot.

Solution #5 : Your exhaust system may be oversized. When your chimney is oversized, the volume of air that needs to be warmed-up is larger. It is therefore difficult to reach temperatures that will allow for a sufficient draft. Most EPA certified stoves have a 6" flue outlet (152mm). If your exhaust system does not have a 6" diameter, you can insert a stainless liner with a 6" diameter inside the exhaust system. Non-EPA stoves often have a flue outlet that varies from 6" to 8". Insert a liner with a diameter equal to the stove's flue outlet.

Question

WHY DOESN'T MY STOVE PRODUCE ENOUGH HEAT?

Answer

Possible causes and solutions :

1. Your wood is of poor quality or too humid.

Solution : Make sure you use good, seasoned wood. The wood you burn plays an important role in the overall performance of your stove. Your wood should have been properly dried for about one year. Furthermore, it is better to use hardwood, such as oak, maple, beech or ash. Hardwood will burn hotter and cleaner. Softwood (such as spruce and pine), on the other hand, will produce less heat for the same volume and will have a lot of sap, which increases the risk of creosote buildup in your chimney. Storage is also key. Wood that has been cut for one, two or even more years, will not necessarily be dry if it has been stored in poor conditions. Under extreme conditions, it may have rotten instead of drying. Smaller pieces of wood will dry faster. The wood should be stored in a place where the grass is not too long, and where the wind will be able to circulate between the logs. A 24" to 48" gap should be kept between the cords. The wood should be placed in the sunniest area and should be protected from the rain and the snow on top, but not the sides.

2. The air control mechanism is not open enough.

Solution : Adjust the air control mechanism in order to keep the flue temperature within the comfort zone (between 250 and 475°F) on your chimney thermometer. The air control mechanism must always be closed gradually. You need to obtain a good bed of red embers and the logs must be completely lit up before you can close the air control completely. This can easily take up to one hour. If you do not have a chimney thermometer and would like to get one, please consult our "[accessories](#)" section.

3. The logs that you are using are too big.

Solution : Use smaller pieces of wood and place them to allow proper air circulation between the logs. The same weight of wood cut in many small pieces will produce more heat than fewer, larger logs. Only add big logs when you have a good bed of red embers. Logs with a diameter exceeding 6 inches should always be split. Avoid stacking logs to the top of the stove.

4. Le tirage dans la cheminée est trop faible.

Solution #1 : In many cases, a weak draft is simply due to insufficient heat in the exhaust system. Build a small, intense fire, and leave the door ajar (never leave the stove unattended). Before inserting larger logs, use dry kindling to obtain a good bed of red embers. Gradually increase the size of the logs. Close the stove door when you reach a flue temperature of approximately 475°F on the chimney thermometer. Leave the air intake open for approximately 15 minutes. Then, gradually close the air intake control. Note that there is no danger in letting the temperature inside the flue reach approximately 700°F during start-up. This is even favourable in order to properly start your stove. You must however avoid to maintain excessive temperatures (above the comfort zone on your thermometer) during a long period of time. Your chimney thermometer should be positioned on the exhaust pipe, approximately 18 inches above the stove. If you do not have a chimney thermometer and would like to get one, please consult our accessories section.

Solution #2 : Your stove may not have all the oxygen it needs to allow for a sufficient draft. You first need to insure that the room where the stove is located is sufficiently large and well ventilated. Open the nearest window by approximately 2 inches. If you notice a significant improvement, it is a sign that the stove needs more oxygen. The room may be too insulated or too small. Without an additional source of oxygen, the draft will remain weak.

Solution #3 : The chimney may be too short. In order to obtain a sufficient draft, your chimney must have a minimum height. A minimum height of 12 feet (from the stove to the end of the chimney) will generally provide a sufficient draft. PLEASE NOTE: Longer is not always better. A chimney that is excessively long may be difficult to warm-up and control.

Solution #4 : Your exhaust system may be too tortuous or may lack a sufficiently steep slope. Ideally, your exhaust system should not have more than one 90° elbow. Furthermore, all horizontal sections should be as short as possible and have a minimum slope of $\frac{1}{4}$ " per foot.

Solution #5 : Your exhaust system may be oversized. When your chimney is oversized, the volume of air that needs to be warmed-up is larger. It is therefore difficult to reach temperatures that will allow for a sufficient draft. Most EPA certified stoves have a 6" flue outlet (152mm). If your exhaust system does not have a 6" diameter, you can insert a stainless liner with a 6" diameter inside the exhaust system. Non-EPA stoves often have a flue outlet that varies from 6" to 8". Insert a liner with a diameter equal to the stove's flue outlet.

5. **If you have verified points 1 through 4 and your stove works fine, but still does not heat enough, you may be asking your stove more than what it can realistically give you. Stoves are used for "zone" heating. It is normal that the heat be distributed unevenly inside your home. It will always be colder in the rooms that are distant from the stove. Furthermore, since heat rises, a stove located at the ground floor level will not heat your basement.**

Solution: : It is possible to increase heat circulation between the floors by installing floor traps. The location of your stove is also important. Try to install it in a central location. If you want to heat both your basement and the ground floor, install your stove in the basement. The heat will rise to the upper floors. Verify that the area you try to heat is within the capacity of your stove. The heating capacity of your stove is indicated on the printed literature supplied by Drolet, or in the technical data section on our web side. Keep in mind that your stove's heating capacity is calculated under the assumption that the house is in normal conditions. The actual heating capacity of a stove may be too low in situations where a house is poorly insulated, or highly exposed to wind. If you already have a stove with a high heating capacity (such as a Sawman or HT2000) that works normally but does not heat enough, you probably need a central heating system, such as a wood furnace.

REMEMBER : *Bigger is not always better. A large stove located in small, airtight room, may not have enough oxygen to operate normally. The advice in this section is provided under the assumption that the stove is located in an open, well ventilated area.*

Question

WHY DOES MY STOVE HEAT TOO MUCH?

Answer

Possible causes and solutions :

- 1. The air control mechanism is completely open.**

Solution : Gradually close the air control mechanism in order to keep the flue temperature within the comfort zone (between 250 and 475°F). If you do not have a chimney thermometer and would like to get one, please consult our "[accessories](#)" section.

- 2. The door or glass gasket are worn out and let too much air into the stove.**

Solution : Replace the gasket using a genuine DROLET adhesive and gasket kit. Please consult our "[accessories](#)" sections.

- 3. You are putting too much wood into the stove.**

Solution : Put less wood into the stove. The stove will not produce as much heat and will not heat as long.

Question

CAN I USE SYNTHETIC LOGS IN MY STOVE?

Answer

There are many types of synthetic (manufactured) logs on the market. You need to carefully read the instructions on the packaging. Those instructions should clearly mention whether the logs are approved for use in a freestanding wood stove. If there is no restriction mentioned on the packaging, try to contact the log manufacturer. Some types of synthetic logs are forbidden for use in wood stoves. Other logs may appear like synthetic logs, but they are completely natural (100% wood, without any additive). Those logs can generally be used in a freestanding wood stove, unless otherwise specified. However, PLEASE NOTE: 100% natural manufactured logs can heat a lot more than regular logs. Never insert a large quantity in your stove. You risk overheating the stove.

Question

CAN I REMOVE THE SOLID CAST IRON DOOR ON MY STOVE AND REPLACE IT WITH A GLASS DOOR?

Answer

It is forbidden to modify a stove. Stoves are safety tested with a specific configuration, drawings of which are filed with the regulating authorities. Changing the type of door could lead to serious difficulties with your insurance company in case of fire. It would also automatically nullify your warranty.

Question

WHY HAS THE PAINT ON MY STOVE TURNED WHITE AND HOW DO I RE-PAINT MY STOVE?

Answer

It is important to note that because of the high temperatures reached on the surface of a stove, almost any type of high temperature paint will tend to discolour over time. However, if your stove has completely turned white in some areas shortly after it has been purchased, this is a sign that the stove has overheated. Many things can cause a stove to overheat. Here is a brief list:

1. The air intake control has been left fully open and flue temperatures have reached excessive levels for a long period of time;
2. The chimney draft is excessive;
3. The door was left ajar for a long period with a fire going;
4. The door gasket is worn out;
5. Firebricks have been damaged or disintegrated and have not been replaced;
6. Pressure treated wood or other bi-products of wood were used as fuel;
7. Manufactured logs were used in the stove.

It is important to identify why the stove has overheated. Otherwise, your stove may wear out prematurely. Make sure you use a chimney thermometer and keep flue temperatures within the comfort zone of 250 to 475°F.

You can paint your stove and make it look brand new. If the paint has not peeled off, you need to prepare the surface with a 180 grade sand paper. Then, repaint the stove with the original high temperature aerosol paint. If the paint has peeled off, you need to prepare the surface with a 180 grad sand paper and remove all the paint until you reach the steel. You can find the original high temperature paint for your stove by consulting our "[accessories](#)" section.

Question

WHEN DO I NEED TO REPLACE THE DOOR GASKET AND WHAT TYPE OF GASKET DO I HAVE TO BUY?

Answer

The gasket is there to insure that your stove remains air tight, thus providing you with the maximum burn time and reducing the risk of overheating. How frequently you replace the gasket really depends on how often you fire your stove. Most Drolet stoves have an adjustable handle

that enables you to increase the useful life of your gasket by tightening the door when it becomes loose. However, when you can no longer adjust the door, when the gasket becomes really hard, and when you notice a gap between the door and the stove, it is time to replace the gasket. If you fire your stove on a regular basis during all winter, you may need to replace the gasket before every heating season. We strongly suggest that you use the genuine gasket supplied by the manufacturer. The genuine gasket has a better density and comes with a special adhesive. It will last much longer. Avoid liquid glue and low density gasket, with large and flabby knits. To obtain the genuine gasket replacement kit for your stove, please consult our "[accessories](#)" section.

Question

WHEN DO I NEED TO REPLACE THE FIREBRICK AND WHAT TYPE OF FIREBRICK DO I HAVE TO BUY?

Answer

The firebricks in your stove are there to protect the steel from the excessive heat of the flames and embers. Without firebricks, your stove would wear out prematurely. It could also become too hot and cause objects or structures nearby to catch fire. If you notice that some firebricks are disintegrated and the steel is directly in contact with the fire or embers, replace the firebricks immediately. If you only notice cracks on some firebricks, it is not necessary to replace them. The frequency at which you will change your firebricks depends on how often you use your stove.

There are different sizes of firebricks. Most stores will sell firebricks with a dimension of 4,5"X9"X1,25". These firebricks are adequate for many stoves, but will not fit on all Drolet units. It is preferable that you visit our parts section in order to clearly identify the type of firebrick that you need. Some models, like the HT1200, HT2000, Sawman, Vision XL, and Royal Comfort have some larger, non-standard firebricks that are only available on special order.